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| 09/758,491      | 01/10/2001  | Aaron A. McBride     | 10559/323001/P9684  | 9330             |

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EXAMINER

HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2172

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/758,491

Applicant(s)

MCBRIDE ET AL.

Examiner

Monplaisir G Hamilton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.                      6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 1-21 are pending.

***Specification***

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: "Method for collaborative editing using hidden data".

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6401103 issued to Ho et al, herein referred to as Ho et al.

Referring to Claims 1, 7 and 13:

Ho discloses a method comprising: receiving modified data that is modified from a data field of a source version of a collection of data (col 3, lines 55-57) and other (state) data of the source version of the collection of data (col 3, lines 53-57); determining if the other data differs from current data included in a current version of a collection of data that corresponds to the other data; and if the other data does not differ, including the modified data in the current data (col 3, lines 65-67; col 4, lines 1-3).

Referring to Claim 18:

Ho discloses a method comprising: transmitting a web page including hidden data to a user (col 4, lines 34-40); receiving a web page from the user including the hidden data and modified data that is modified from the hidden data (col 3, lines 50-60); determining if the hidden data differs from current data included in a current version of the web page (col 4, lines 55-59); if the hidden data does not differ from the current data, including the modified data in the current version of the web page (Fig 6, col 4, lines 57-59); if the hidden data does differ from the current data, enabling the user to verify the data modified from the hidden data before including the modified data in the current version of the web page (Fig 6, col 4, lines 60-65).

Referring to Claims 2 and 8:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 7 above. Ho further discloses transmitting the modified data to a location having access to the current data (col 4, lines 43-45, 51-55).

Referring to Claims 3 and 9:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 7. Ho further discloses if the other data does differ from the current data, enabling verification of the modified data before including the modified data in the current data (col 11, lines 52-56).

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Referring to Claim 4 and 10:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 3 and 9 above. Ho further discloses receiving verification and including the modified data in the current data (col 11, lines 52-56).

Referring to Claims 5 and 11:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 7 above. Ho further discloses the collection of data includes a web page (col 3, lines 45-48).

Referring to Claims 6 and 12:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 7 above. Ho further discloses the other (state) data includes hidden data (col 4, lines 30-35).

Referring to Claims 14 and 19:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 13 and 18 above. Ho further discloses transmitting the web page including the original data to the user (col 4, lines 26-35).

Referring to Claim 15:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 13 above. Ho further discloses also transmitting the current version of the web page to the user (col 4, lines 60-65).

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Referring to Claims 16 and 20:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 13 and 18 above. Ho further discloses enabling the user to verify the modified data includes inserting the modified data into the current version of the web page, noting the differences between the original data and the current data on the current version of the web page, transmitting the current version of the web page to the user, and receiving verification of the current version of the web page from the user (Fig 6; col 10, lines 15-25, 35-65).

Referring to Claim 17 and 21:

Ho discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 16 and 20 above. Ho further discloses including the modified data in the current data after the user verifies the data modified from the original data (col 10, lines 60-65).

***Prior Art***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6393437 issued to Zinda, Eric K. et al. Zinda discloses A method and apparatus for allowing multiple developers of software applications working in client/server computing network to remotely save, test and debug project files such as web pages. The client computer is capable of emulating server side operations to allow the developer to locally test changes to project files before they are saved on the server. The client computer maintains an accurate view of the overall project, but without having to locally copy the entire software project, by storing file information relating to the software project including, for example, metadata, link information, and BOT replacements, and/or a directory structure of the files and folders in the software project that mirrors the directory structure of the software project on the server. Concurrently modified files may be merged by prompting a developer when conflicts arise between the files to be merged.

US 5893119 issued to Squibb, Mark. Squibb discloses A computer apparatus and method for merging system deltas, and more particularly, to a computer apparatus and method for 1) merging a number of system deltas with a copy S of a system's files (primary input stream) to create a revised copy of a system's files (primary output stream), 2) merging a plurality of system deltas with one another to create a compiled system delta, 3) creating inverse system deltas, and 4) merging inverse system deltas as in 1) and 2), supra. The methods may be used to



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save, construct and/or retrieve current and historical system states. The apparatus and method may be used in conjunction with a computer backup process, version manager, or the like.

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***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is 1703-305-5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on 1703-305-4393. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 1703-746-7239 for regular communications and 1703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1703-305-3900.

Monplaisir Hamilton  
December 20, 2002

  
JEAN M. CORRIELUS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER